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"Comfort One Another With These Words"

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. [14] For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. [15] For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. [16] For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17] Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. [18] Wherefore comfort one another with these words. (I Thessalonians 4:13-18).

Here, through the Holy Spirit inspired pen of the Apostle Paul, God gives to each of us a commandment ¹ and that commandment is to "comfort one another with these words;" words of promise that there will come a day of resurrection, that "the dead in Christ shall rise" and we which are alive "shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." Life does not end with the death of the body, and we are to "comfort one another with these words."

Paul tells us more about the blessed resurrection in his wonderful First Epistle to the Church at Corinth:

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, [52] In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be incorruptible, and we shall be changed. [53] For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. [54] So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. (I Corinthians 15:51-54).

We certainly cannot use "filthy rags" to buy something as great as an eternity in Heaven. So God sent His only begotten Son Jesus to pay by price for our salvation, and He did this for one reason only, because God so loves us:

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8).

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

You may ask just as the Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas this most import question about how you too can have eternal salvation:

. . . Sirs, what must I do to be saved? (Acts 16:30b).

Paul and Silas answered him with these words:

And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved $\,$. . (Acts 16:31a).

The Bible tells us exactly how to do that:

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. (Romans 10:9).

So wherever you are right now, you can just bow your head and pray like this:

"Heavenly Father, I know that I am a sinner and that I cannot save myself. Please forgive me for my sins. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay for my sins and that He rose from the dead three days later. Please Lord Jesus, come in to my heart and save me. Amen."

If you were sincere and truthful when you prayed that, then according to the Bible, you are now saved and have Jesus Christ in your heart for all eternity. Now you can go to Heaven. Praise God!

We would like to hear from you. Please go to our website and send us an e-mail to tell us about your decision to get saved. We will help you to take the next step in your new life as a Christian.

God Bless You!

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Peter also gives us his closing words, seeing his body as a tabernacle to be put off, desiring that his words would remain for Christian posterity:

Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. ^[15] Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. ^[16] For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. (II Peter 1:14-16).

John, the beloved apostle puts his closing words in his Gospel of Jesus Christ, and in his Epistles:

And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: [31] But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. (John 20:30-31).

This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true. [25] And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen. (John 21:24-25).

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; . . . [3] That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. [4] And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. (I John 1:1,3-4).

These three men were among the ones who knew Jesus Christ better than anyone else that have ever lived. Even if we never learn anything more about their lives or the purpose of their Divine calling, the most important thing to know about them is that they want us to live our lives in the assurance of the life hereafter, that we "may know" that we "have eternal life." (I John 5:13). There is no other true comfort to be found anywhere. Their words, inspired by the Holy Spirit of God, have been preserved for our admonition here in the Twenty-First Century. May we use them to comfort ourselves, and to "comfort one another with these words;" words of eternal life given to us by God through the Holy Bible. Amen.

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¹ There are indeed more commandments than merely the famous Ten Commandments that Moses brought down from Mount Horeb on stone tablets engraved "with the finger of God." (Exodus 31:18). We can find over 1,500 commandments in the Old and New Testaments combined, with some overlapping, and only Jesus Christ was able to keep them all, being that "in him is no sin." (I John 3:5).